

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-30 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 12, 16, 17, 21 and 22 are amended herein. Claim 30 is added herein. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found in the claims as originally filed. Reconsideration is requested based on the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Response to Arguments:

The Applicants appreciate the consideration given to their arguments. Further reconsideration is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1 and 3-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Publication No. 06035567 to Yoshiji (hereinafter "Yoshiji") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0002039 to Qureshey et al. (hereinafter "Qureshey"). The rejection is traversed to the extent it might apply to the claims as amended. Reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Yoshiji discloses a main display 3 fixed to a housing 8, and an auxiliary display 1 that tilts to display contents different from those displayed on the main display 3. In Yoshiji, predetermined contents that are not displayed on the main display area 3 are displayed on the auxiliary display 1, which can be tilted to view them at an optimum display angle.

Although the auxiliary display 1 of Yoshiji may be visible when the lid is closed, the user must perform a troublesome operation of tilting the auxiliary display 1 to an easily viewable position, depending on the tilted position of the auxiliary display 1.

The claimed invention, on the other hand, recites, inter alia an auxiliary display section that is fixed to the main body, while still being visible from the outside even when the lid is closed, without necessitating any tilting of the auxiliary display section as in the case of Yoshiji.

Furthermore, the tiltable auxiliary display 1 of Yoshiji provides an auxiliary display function with respect to the main display 3, while in the claimed invention, a plurality of buttons or switches are provided adjacent to the auxiliary display section, on the main body. This enables direct operation of the electronic equipment via the main body.

Qureshey, for its part, discloses a display device having a mode selection button. Therefore, even if Yoshiji was combined with Qureshey, the claimed invention would not result.

Claim 1, in particular, recites:

An auxiliary display section fixed to the main body and configured to display status information of the electronic equipment.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “an auxiliary display section fixed to the main body and configured to display status information of the electronic equipment,” as recited in claim 1. The Office Action asserts at page 3 that the auxiliary display section 1 of Yoshiji is configured to display status information of the electronic equipment. This is submitted to be incorrect. Auxiliary display section 1 of Yoshiji, rather, is meant to display statistics pertaining to the document displayed currently in main drop 3, such as a paper size, number of characters, input mode, translation mode, cursor location, time of day, etc., as described at paragraph [0013], not status information of the electronic equipment. Auxiliary display section 1 of Yoshiji, furthermore, is tiltable, as discussed above, rather than, “fixed to the main body,” as recited in claim 1. Qureshey, for its part, has no auxiliary display at all.

Similarly, the third clause of claim 1 recites:

A plurality of buttons positioned adjacent the auxiliary display section, including a plurality of application buttons having respective instruction contents which differ, depending on an operation mode of the electronic equipment.

Yoshiji neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests, “a plurality of buttons positioned adjacent the auxiliary display section, including a plurality of application buttons having respective instruction contents which differ, depending on an operation mode of the electronic equipment,” as recited in claim 1. Since Yoshiji, rather, shows no auxiliary display section configured to display status information of the electronic equipment, as discussed above, Yoshiji has no need for “a plurality of buttons positioned adjacent the auxiliary display section . . . depending on an operation mode of the electronic equipment,” either.

The Office Action seeks to compensate for this deficiency of Yoshiji by combining Yoshiji and Qureshey, saying, at page 3 of the Office Action:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the controller of Yoshiji with the features of the meaning of the keys corresponding to the display sections according to a mode selection key as taught by Qureshey so that the user can input more functions with limited number of keys.

A user of Yoshiji, however, cannot input functions at auxiliary display section 1 at all, let alone be able to input *more* functions if the user had more keys. Auxiliary display section 1, rather, is meant simply to display statistics pertaining to the document displayed currently in main drop 3, as discussed above, not input functions. The document on display, in fact, directs the

display of auxiliary display section 1, not a user input function. It is submitted, therefore, that persons of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify Yoshiji as proposed in the Office Action, since the user cannot input functions at auxiliary display section 1 in the first place.

Finally, the fifth clause of claim 1 recites:

A lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “a lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position,” as recited in claim 1. Auxiliary display section 1 of Yoshiji, rather, is shown clearly to be visible only when main drop 3 is open or, if main drop 3 is closed, *after* the user rotates shaft 12 so auxiliary display section 1 points outward. This is different from an auxiliary display section that *remains* visible when the lid is closed. Qureshey, for its part, has no auxiliary display at all. Claim 1 is submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 3, 4, 9-13, 24, and 27 depend from claim 1 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 3, 4, 9-13, 24, and 27 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3, 4, 9-13, 24, and 27 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 5, 6, 14-18, 25, and 28:

Claim 5 recites:

An auxiliary display section fixed to the main body.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “an auxiliary display section fixed to the main body,” as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 5 recites:

A lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “a lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position,” as discussed above with respect to claim 1, either. Claim 5 is submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 6, 14-18, 25, and 28 depend from claim 5 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 6, 14-18, 25, and 28 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 14-18, 25, and 28 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 7, 8, 19-23, 26, and 29:

Claim 7 recites:

An auxiliary display section fixed to the main body.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “an auxiliary display section fixed to the main body,” as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 7 recites:

A lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position.

Neither Yoshiji nor Qureshey teach, disclose, or suggest, “a lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections and the plurality of buttons are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section, the plurality of buttons and the mode select button remain visible from an outside of the electronic equipment when the lid is in the closed position,” as discussed above with respect to claim 1, either. Claim 7 is submitted to be allowable, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 is earnestly solicited.

Claims 8, 19-23, 26, and 29 depend from claim 7 and add additional distinguishing elements. Claims 8, 19-23, 26, and 29 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of

the rejection of claims 8, 19-23, 26, and 29 is earnestly solicited.

New Claim 30:

New claim 30 recites:

A lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section remains visible from an outside of the electronic equipment.

None of the cited references teach, disclose, or suggest, "a lid selectively moveable between an opened position in which the main and auxiliary display sections are visible and a closed position in which the main display section is not visible but the auxiliary display section remains visible from an outside of the electronic equipment." Claim 30 is thus believed to be allowable.

Conclusion:

Accordingly, in view of the reasons given above, it is submitted that all of claims 1 and 3-30 are allowable over the cited references. Allowance of all claims 1 and 3-30 and of this entire application is therefore respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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